Psychiatrist Guilty Of Sex Inducement Must Pay $350,000

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Dr. Renatus S. Hartogs, a 66-year-old psychiatrist, was directed by a jury in State Supreme Court here yesterday to pay $350,000 in damages to a woman who accused him of inducing her to enter a sexual relationship with him during the course of her therapy.

The jury of four women and two men assessed Dr. Hartogs with $250,000 in compensatory and $100,000 in punitive damages to be paid to Julie Roy, a 36-year-old former secretary at Esquire magazine.

Miss Roy had charged in a $1.25-million malpractice suit that Dr. Hartogs persuaded her to have sexual relations with him while she underwent therapy for 14 months in 1969 and 1970.

Dr. Hartogs, who maintains an office at 39 East 78th Street, denied Miss Roy's charges, saying that a tumor had made sex impossible for him.

Two other women, one an actress and the other a former schoolteacher, testified in the eight-day trial that they had sexual relations with Dr. Hartogs on his advice.

The psychiatrist's lawyer, Samuel Halpern, urged the jury not to award any damages to Miss Roy, declaring that there was no evidence "to show damages—she's not entitled to 5 cents."

However, Miss Roy's lawyer, Robert S. Cohen, pressing for $1-million in punitive and $250,000 in compensatory damages, told the jurors that "the scars of Dr. Hartogs' treatment lay heavily upon her."

Acting Justice Allen Murray Myers reserved decision on a motion by Dr. Hartogs's lawyer to set aside the verdict as excessive and contrary to law.